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PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

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LISA MADIGAN
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

What Is An Environmental Crime?

Typically, the most common crimes against the environment are those which pollute the air, land or water.

Burning Tires
Hazardous Waste
Agricultural Waste
Chemical Run-off
Chemical Release
Yard Waste
Tire Piles
Factory Exhaust
Construction and Demolition Debris
Abandoned Household Garbage

Who Can Be Held Responsible?

Under the Illinois Open Dumping laws, the landowner is responsible for all open dumping that occurs on his/her property– even if the landowner is neither the dumper nor has any knowledge of the dump site. The dumper can also be held responsible and subject to enforcement action as can the generator of any waste that is illegally dumped.

If you suspect an environmental crime, call us. Our phone numbers are on the back of this pamphlet.

AVOID OPEN DUMPING

Items Banned From Landfills	Alternative Disposal Options
Landscape (Yard) Waste	Leave clippings on lawn to serve as nutrients; mulch grass, leaves and wood chips; take waste to a compost facility or build an on-site compost bin.
Used Tires	Allow tire retailers to dispose of used tires (there may be a fee for tire disposal); participate in a used tire collection program.
Motor Oil	Save used oil in a leak-proof container and give it to service stations and recycling centers that accept used oil; have oil changed at a facility that recycles and properly disposes of oil.
White Goods (Domestic and commercial large appliances)	Remove hazardous components (Mercury switches, CFC, Freon, PCBs); arrange to have the appliance hauled to a scrap yard.
Hazardous Waste (Degreasers, acids, metals, paint waste, pesticides, etc.)	Do not attempt to handle hazardous waste on your own. Call your local law enforcement or the Illinois EPA for removal and/or handling.

A Message from
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL
LISA MADIGAN

Protecting our natural resources is vital to ensuring a healthier Illinois. For this reason, strict observance of the state's environmental protection laws is very important. I am committed to protecting our environment and prosecuting polluters to the fullest extent of the law.

In addition, my Office has established the Illinois Environmental Crimes Investigators Network of over 400 law enforcement officers statewide, specifically trained to detect air, water and land pollution and swiftly prosecute offenders.

We cannot fight environmental crime alone. We need your help in identifying unlawful dumping and other environmental violations. I urge you to report any suspicious activity to our 24-hour toll-free hotline, (888) 288-9436 [TTY: (800) 964-3013]. Together, we can protect our communities.

Lisa Madigan
Attorney General

LISA MADIGAN
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

ENVIRONMENTAL HOTLINE
1-888-288-9436
TTY: 1-800-964-3013

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